The People's Korea

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Top Official Proposes Great National Congress

A top official proposed a great national congress involving Koreans in north and south Korea and abroad to form a national united front, a report from Pyongyang said.

The Korean Central News Agency monitored here quoted Rim Chun Chu as calling for multilateral dialogue and contacts of fellow countrymen with different ideas and affiliations.

Rim, member of the Political Committee of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and member of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland, was speaking at a meeting celebrating the 35th anniversary of the latter.

At the celebration held on July 21 at the February 8 House of Culture in Pyongyang, Rim stressed the fact that there are persons with different ideas and different social systems in the north and the south.

Giving particular attention to the need to give precedence to the interests of the nation, the top official singled out the common traditional Korean values as an underlying basis for national unity and reunification of the divided country.

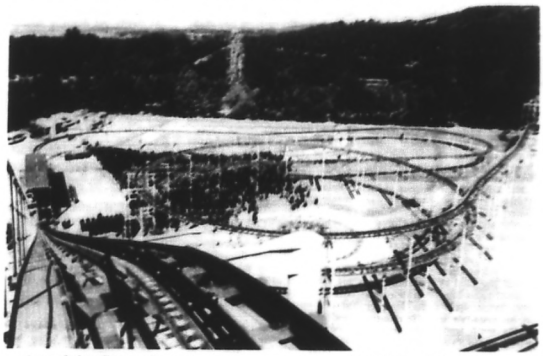
Follows a KCNA account of the remarks made by Rim:

"We consider that in order to form a great national united front, it is necessary for personages of various strata in the north, the south and abroad to have contacts and dialogues and convene a great national congress, a whole-nation consultative body.

"At the same time, to found the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo as early as possible we should vigorously carry on work to organize a preparatory commitee for founding the DCRK represented by all political parties, groupings and all circles in the north, the south and abroad.

"All the Koreans in the north, the south and abroad should closely unite in a great national united front and fight under the banner of national reunification transcending differences in idea, social system, party affiliation and political view. This is a key to the founding of the confederal republic and the realization of national reunification.

"The traitorous Chon Du Hwan is loudly advertising 'mutual visits,' talking about 'unification'. This is a trick to cover up his nature as a nation-splittist, a political chicanery to lull the discontent of the south Korean people and mislead world public opinion, and a foolish drama aimed merely at propaganda effect."



A part of a long-distance roller coaster in the Taesongsan Amusement Center in the suburbs of Pyongyang

Blasts Isrdeli Acts Against Lebanon

Pyongyang on July 21 joined an international chorus of denunciations of the unwarranted acts of aggression against Lebanon and Arab countries.

A scathing attack came in a statement issued that day by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the DPRK.

The DPRK Government, calling the Israeli acts "a grave challenge" to the Arab peoples as a whole, held the United States responsible for an explosive situation in the Middle East.

Expressing firm solidarity with the cause of the Arab peoples, the DPRK Foreign Ministry statement stressed the importance of unity among Arab peoples and countries in frustrating the schemes of the aggressors.

Follows a gist of the statment

On July 17 Israeli war planes bombed Beirut, the capital of Lebanon, brutally killing over 130 peaceable people and wounding more than 500 others in this thrice-cursed barbarity.

The escalation of such vicious aggressive acts of the Zionists has today plunged the Middle East situation into a grave state in which a new large-scale war may break out any moment and it seriously jeopardizes peace in this region.

This gives rise to deep concern among the Arab peoples and the peaceloving people of the world.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Korean people sternly denounce the brigandish aggressive barbarity repeatedly committed of late by the Israeli aggressors as a grave challenge to the Lebanese, Palestinian, Syrian and other Arab peoples and a vicious criminal act harassing peace in the Middle East and express firm solidarity with the Arab peoples in their just struggle against the Israeli aggressors.

The Israeli aggressors are trying to realise their wild ambition for establishing an "Israel Empire" in the Middle East by crushing the struggle of the Palestinian people to restore their national dignity and rights, making the Arab lands illegally occupied by them their permanent possession and grabbing more Arab land.

Out of this expansionist design, they sent their bombers deep into the air space of Iraq in June and committed the robber-like act of bombing an atomic reactor near the capital.

The Israeli aggressors running wild with the support of the U.S. imperialists are the root cause of the disasters not allowing the Arab peoples to feel at rest for a moment and the cause of the constant threat to peace in the Middle East.

Israel must no more be allowed to freely commit brigandish aggressive acts in the Middle East.

If the Arab peoples closely united and jointly deal a blow at the Israeli aggressors, they can thward and frustrate their aggressive schemes and lead the cause of the Arab people to a victory.

The just struggle of the Arab peoples today is enjoying the active support and encouragement of the world peaceloving people and the Israeli aggressors find themselves further isolated and repudiated day by day.

The Korean people will always stand firm on the side of the fraternal Arab peoples in their staunch struggle against the Israeli aggressors, the common enemy, and actively support and encourage their sacred stuggle.

The Israeli aggressors should look squarely at the trend of the developments at the present time and act with discretion, promptly give up their aggression and war provocation manoeuvres against the Lebanese, Palestinian, Syrian and other Arab peoples and withdraw from all the occupied Arab lands at an early date.

Tokyo to Hike Credits to Seoul for 'Security' As S. Korea Listed World's 3rd Largest Debtor by IMF

The Government of Japan decided on July 24 to increase sharply yen credits to the junta of strongman Chon Du Hwan for what it terms security reasons, not for stabilization of livelihood, as south Korea faces an ever-stronger chance of defaulting its debts, the third largest in the world.

The decision of Tokyo, coming in response to strong requests from the United States Government of Reagan, is believed by observers here as having an impact on the ocevelopments on the Korean Peninsula.

They cite the change of those yen credits from the funds for the "stabilization of livelihood" to those for "national security." One report said Seoul is requesting ¥460billion or $2 billion in governmental funds.

In other words, the decision helps reinforce the understanding of the value of south Korea to Japan and the United States as an advance shield of the two countries.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) revealed late in June that south Korea was the world's third largest debtor behind Brasil with $ 60 billion and Mexico with $550 billion.

Even exclusive of those arrivals to be repaid immediately, south Korea owed $15 billion as of the end of last year.

An IMF official warned of a strong likelihood of creditor banks having difficulty getting their loans repaid.

S. Korea's Popular Comedian Seeking Asylum in U.S.

Pae Sam Ryong, popular commedian of south Korea, who left Seoul on December 28 last as a member of an entertainers group to visit Korean communities in Canada and the United States, refused to return home even after his passport expired on June 4.

While staying in the United States, Pae expressed a severe criticism of Gen. Chon Du Hwan partly because he was prohibited from appearing on TV last year.

Of all the 18 members of the group, only four returned home, while the remaing 13 are now "illegally" staying in the United States in concert with Pae.

–Black Beret Named Chief Bodyguard of Chon–

Brigadier General Chang Se Dong, graduate of the 16th Military Academy, was appointed by Gen. Chon Du Hwan as his chief bodyguard at the blue house on July 13.

He replaced Gen. Chong Tong Ho who returned to his original unit.

Brig. Gen. Chang began his new job as an active-duty officer, unlike all the presidential bodyguards who put off their uniforms.

Gen. Chang, personal confidant of Chon Du Hwan, served in south Vietnam as intelligence chief of the 29th regiment of the White Horse Division ('70–71). In the wake of assassination of Pak Jung Hi, Chang became commander of the 1st brigade of the special warfare forces, Black Berets, which indiscriminately slaughtered citizens and students in Kwangju last May.

Seoul Students Reading Das Capital

It was disclosed on July 13 that south Korean students were reading Das Capital and other Communist literature for a study of social, economic and political evils facing their society.

Reports reaching Tokyo from Seoul said the Seoul district criminal court sentenced that day Pak Ki Sang, a male student of Seoul National University and two other students to prison terms ranging from eight months to one year on charges of having produced at least 800 xeroxed copies of Das Capital and other Communist literature in May last year. Their charges also included the role in organizing anti-Chon protests on campus in July last year.

The Anti-Communist Law was invoked in finding them guilty, although any law under that title is technically non-existant.

The disclosure suggests a growing radicalization of the south Korean students. It should be remembered that the minister of education made a speaking tour of universities and colleges in February last, attacking the expanding influence of Communism on the students and intellectuals.

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Activities of S. Korean Nationalists for Korea's Reunification

Ultra-Rightist Nationalist Kim Gu Allies with Communists (1)

After the liberation of Korea in 1945, many nationalists in south Korea vigorously participated in the reunification activities. For one Korea, they were willing to ally even with the communists of whom they had been extremely critical.

The new series of stories about some of these nationalists in south Korea is about how the south Korean nationalists contributed toward the cause of national reunification together with the communists, irrespective of ideas, faiths and affiliations.

Follows the first part of a story of famed nationalist Kim Gu:

Kim Gu (1876-1949), born at Haeju City, South Hwanghae Province, after the March 1 Incident in 1919, exiles himself to Shanghai and becomes its police inspector, then the Minister of Home Affairs, and then the Secretary of State Affairs; founds the Korea Independence Party in 1928, in 1933 meets Chang Kai-shek in Nanjing, in 1935 founds the Korea National Party; in 1944 elected President of the Provisional Government; just after the liberation comes back to south Korea, becomes the vice-chairman of the Central Consultative Committee to Promote Liberation of Korea, then the vice-chairman of the House of Democrats and then the vice-president of the General Headquarters of National Liberation; in 1948 visits Pyongyang to attend the north-south joint conference, 1949 shot to death by a second lieutenant of the south Korean army An Du Hui; in 1962 the "ROK" Order of Merit for National Foundation was awarded to him.

* * *

All-Korea United Front Alliance between Communists & Nationalists

In mid-1947, a separate election for a separate government was planned in south Korea by the United States. This posed the danger of Korea being split into two. In this situation, the north, acting according to the demand of the people, made a proposal to form a provisional constitution or a unified democratic government in Korea through the independent efforts of the Korean people themselves. It also called on all patriotic and democratic people in the north and south to unite themselves and fight against the intervention of foreign forces for the reintegration of Korea.

Its proposal was supported by large numbers of patriots and democrats and other people in both parts of Korea. The south Korean people started to move toward the unification of their country, rejecting foreign intervention, and even middle-of-the-road political forces joined them. People felt embarrassed, facing the moves for the division of their country. Especially embarrassed were the rightist nationalists. Many of their groups disintegrated.

Mr. Kim Gu, believed to be the leader of rightist nationalists in south Korea, was also irresolute as the leaders of other rightist groups were. As an ultra-anti-communist, he had expected the U.S. to do something beneficial to the Korean people after Korea's liberation on August 15, 1945. However, he was now wondering whether he should follow the way to a divided Korea, as directed by the U.S., or the way to one Korea. In other words, his mind was torn between the two choices, independence and subordination.

As a matter of fact, at that time a united front which Korea urgently needed, meant an alliance between the communists and the nationalists. Mr. Kim Gu was a man enjoying great influence on the south Korean nationalists. Collaborating with him was one of the most important tasks for the north to be attained for an all-Korea united front.

Irrespective of Principles and Contentions

The north called for a joint conference of political parties and social organizations of north and south Korea. This meeting was planned to discuss ways and means of preventing the split of Korea with the united strength of the entire Korean people, a unity which, the north considered, should be achieved irrespective of the differences of principles, ideas and party affiliations among the political forces in the north and the south.

One day in mid-March, 1948, considering the situation developing in favor of a joint conference, President Kim Il Sung said to some leaders of the north that in order to crush the U.S. plot of splitting Korea by holding a separate election for a separate government, an all-Korea united front should be established. For this purpose, rightist nationalists should be included in it, he stressed and added Mr. Kim Gu to the lists. No one expected to hear the name of a man so hostile to the communists spoken by the President. Staring at the puzzled faces, he said:

"Why do you think we can not collaborate with Kim Gu? Of course, he is an anti-communist and a nationalist, but he has anti-Japanese feelings and he does not like even the U.S. now. It is simple that he does not like the U.S., because the U.S. is trying to divide Korea by establishing a separate government, by controlling Syngman Rhee. He is a patriot enough to worry about the future of his country. Nothing can be an obstacle in the way of cooperating with him for the reunification of our country." This was a courageous decision.

Clean Slate

Letters of invitation to a joint conference scheduled to be held in Pyongyang were sent to leaders of political parties and social organizations and individuals in the south. Of course, one of these letters was delivered to Mr. Kim Gu. Not only leftists but also representatives of the middle-of-the-road political parties and even some bigoted rightist nationalists responded to the letters.

It was not easy to visit the north for nationalists, religionists, Confucianists, businessmen and former overseas activists of national liberation movements who all had different ideas and political views from those of the communists.

Mr. Kim Gu was nervous about visiting Pyongyang because he was once called an anti-communist fighter and once the head of the "Shanghai provisional government" which was financed by U.S. and British secret services. However, the independent reunification policy proposed by the north was a tremendous impact on him who only could explore the prospect of his country's split. He thought if the north ignored his past, he would go to Pyongyang. He sent one of his secretaries to President Kim Il Sung. The secretary crossed the 38th Parallel Line and reached the President, who told him that he did not care about Mr. Kim Gu's past.

Firm Determination

After receiving this good news from Pyongyang, Mr. Kim Gu gave a press conference and declared his decision to attend the planned north-south joint conference. In his speech he said: "If we should lose our motherland and if our nation should be ruined, it would be futile to talk about ideas, contentions and principles.

"If I can contribute to the cause of national reunification by meeting General Kim Il Sung, I am not afraid of dying on the 38th Parallel Line."

The decision and a similar declaration made by another rightist nationalist Kim Gyu Sik on the visit to Pyongyang after Mr. Kim Gu's, caused a sensation in the political circles of the south.

Many American and south Korean leaders, including Syngman Rhee, visited Mr. Kim Gu at his home every day, trying to persuade him to stop going to Pyongyang, by appeasement or threats. Even those close to him and his family members were threatened. However, his firm determination made him publish a statement "Let's decide the destiny of our motherland, by discussing problems with people

Mr. Kim Gu (center), once known as an ultra-rightist nationalist, and his party before crossing the 38th Parallel Line into the north on April 19, 1948.

(Continued on page 7)

Chon Du Hwan Cannot Represent S. Korean People: Ex-Foreign Minister Choe Dok Sin

Former south Korean foreign minister Mr. Choe Dok Sin, a resident of the U.S. who visited the DPRK from June 22 to July 18 gave a press conference and published a statement on his departure on July 18.

He said in his statement:

I have determinedly visited the northern half of the fatherland, ready for all difficulties, from the sense of filial duty to pay homage to the father's grave in my lifetime and out of the desire to do what little I could for the great national cause of ending the tragedy of territorial division.

During my visit, I have had all my wishes gratified and, moreover, have seen and learned many valuable things, which have left on me deepest impressions.

He went on:

Firstly, the northern half of the fatherland is a paradise.

The reality of the northern half which I have witnessed, visiting it for the first time in several dozen years far surpasses all I had heard and imagined in an alien land.

Being a man of the third generation of a Chondoist family, I had sought a terrestrial paradise, which I have seen here in reality.

Secondly, the northern half of the fatherland is a land of tremendous national power.

Here I see too many things of world's first grade. I can hardly repress admiration at the thought that such development of high level has been attained by internal force in a short period on debris brought by the war.

Travelling the world, I had never seen or heard about a country which has made such marvellous development after the world war.

Potential of the country is immense and it seems to confidently administer state affairs.

Thirdly, I admire greatness of the people.

I think such inexhaustible resource and strength displayed by the compatriots in the homeland are offsprings of man-centred politics which attaches greatest importance to man and rears man into the mightiest being.

Fourthly, our nation is a great nation.

I think the Juche idea is the philosophical ideology which can lead our nation and the world.

In the long history spanning fifty centuries, our nation had no philosophy of its own.

But, with the great President Kim Il Sung discovering the Juche idea, the great idea followed by all peoples, our nation came to possess its own philosophy and, by bringing it to materialisation, has been able to restore its intrinsic features in a half of its territory and become a great nation leading the world on the track of independence. Incomparable is the national pride and honour of our people.

Fifthly, President Kim Il Sung is the great leader for the world.

The President is, indeed, a great man surpassing all sages known to mankind and an outstanding hero personifying illustrious characters of all the great men known to the east and west.

This country owes such astonishing development and our nation owes its growth into a great nation to him who is possessed of an extensive knowledge embracing all domains and rare wisdom, great generosity and tolerance, tenderness of bottomless depth and noble virtues. At this thought my reverence for the President becomes fiercer.

A man who participated in the anti-Japanese war in the past, I had respected the President as only a famous general. But, the President is not only a great commander, but also a great stateman, a great philosopher, a great educationist, a great architect and a great artist.

It is a pride and honour of our nation to have President Kim Il Sung.

Sixthly, the future of the fatherland and nation is bright.

It is an important thing on which depends the rise and fall of the nation how to uphold the intention of the President.

It is a thing only too natural and gratifying to have elected in the homeland, as the leader to aid the cause of the President and succeed it, Mr. Kim Jong Il whom you attend as the dear comrade leader for he wholly carries in himself the intention, personality and virtues of the President.

He is a peerless great man well versed in ideology and theory and all-powerful in the leadership art and a sagacious and tender-hearted great man broad and rich in knowledge and noble in personal virtue. The future of nation is assured and optimistic.

I extend my regards to Mr Kim Jong Il, the leader.

Seventhly, the country will certainly be reunified.

As clearly put down in the joint statement, the proposal for founding the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo is the flawless and most realistic proposal on the way to reunification.

I express my unquestioned support to this proposal and will do my utmost for its realisation.

Chon Du Hwan cannot represent the people of the southern half. And I make it clear that he who has committed treason cannot be a party to a talk in the debate on reunification, the great work of the nation.

National reunification is a reunification of a patriotic nation, not a reunification with a traitor to the nation. Therefore, such traitor as Chon Du Hwan is not an object of a talk for reunification, but an object of rejection and an object of overthrow.

The traitor in Seoul will not have many days to survive.

Mr. Choe Dok Sin advised the overseas compatriots who have an wrong conception and a biased view of the north, deceived by the one-sided, distorted propaganda, to have a correct view of the fatherland, of the north.

In conclusion he appealed to the compatriots at home and abroad to understand each other and unite with each other as kith and kin and advance vigorously in the national salvation cause of democracy and reunification.

During Mr. Choe's stay in the DPRK, President Kim Il Sung on July 1 personally met him and exchanged opinion about the reunification problem. Vice-President Kim Il also met him on June 26 to discuss the reunification issue with him.

Mr. Choe Dok Sin toured various places in the DPRK, including educational and cultural facilities and industrial establishments. On June 23 he visited the grave of his father Choe Dong O who had been a patriotic political activist from south Korea. He also visited the graves of political activists of south Korea right after liberation, including those of Kim Gyu Sik, An Tae Hong, Ryu Dong Ryol, O Ha Yong. He met and had heart-to-heart talks with his relatives living in the homeland, too. As former leader of the Central Headquarters of Chodoism in south Korea and as one of believers of Chondoism, he called at the Central Committee of Chondoist Chongu Party and the house of Chondoist fellow believer Chang Yu Sin and attended ritual.

Month of Anti-U.S. Joint Struggle (6.25-7.27)

On the occasion of the month of anti-U.S. joint struggle, international organizations, foreign public bodies and individual personalities held meetings and issued statements. They say the United States must withdraw at once its troops and all the destruction weapons including nuclear weapons from south Korea and must no more encourage the south Korean military fascists. They fully support the new proposal of President Kim Il Sung for reunifying Korea by founding a Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo.

Asia

Japan

July 8: A meeting of transport workers of Japan was held in Tokyo to voice support to reunification of Korea and demand the withdrawal of the U.S. troops from south Korea.

July 17: A "July 17 central meeting supporting the reunification of Korea, opposing the Japan-U.S.-south Korea military integration and expressing solidarity with the struggle for the democratization of south Korean society" was held in Tokyo.

India

June 25: A mass meeting of representatives of Indian political parties and public organisations supporting the Korean people's struggle to achieve the independent and peaceful reunification of the country was held in New Delhi under the co-sponsorship of the All India Indo-Korean Friendship Association and the Indian Committee for Supporting Korea's Reunification.

July 9: The Indian Federation of United Nations Association, the East-West Friendship Association of India, the Indian Friendship Association, the Delhi, India, Moviemen's Union, the All India Indo-Korean Friendship Association, the Indian committee for supporting Korea's reunification and the Indian committee for preventing crimes published a joint statement.

Nepal

June 24: Dev Ranjit, Secretary General of the Nepal Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Committee, made public a statement.

Pakistan

June 25: Nine public organizations of Pakistan including the Pakistan Organization for Afro-Asian People's Solidarity, the Pakistan Peace Council, the Pakistan Trade Union Federation, the Pakistan Kissan Committee, the Lahore District, Pakistan, lawyers association and the action committee of the Lahore, Pakistan, labor federation published an appeal.

June 27: The Pakistan youth welfare organization made public a statememt on the occasion of the month of anti-U.S. joint struggle.

July 8: Mohammad Aslam, editor-in-chief of the Pakistan diplomatic publications, issued a talk on the occasion of the month of anti-U.S. Joint struggle.

China

June 26: The Chinese "People's Daily" carried an article titled "Sacred Cause of Peaceful Reunification of Korea" in connection with the opening of the month of anti-U.S. joint struggle.

Jordan

July 15: The Jordanian Peace and Solidarity committee published a statement.

Yemen

July 14: The general confederation of workers of democratic Yemen, the democratic peasants union of Yemen, the Yemeni socialist union of youth and the central council of the Yemeni students union released a joint statement.

Syria

June 24: The command of the Syrian People's Army published a statement on the occasion of the month of anti-U.S. joint struggle.

Lebanon

June 24: Nineteen political parties and public organizations of Lebanon including the socialist progressive party of Lebanon, the Lebanese regional committee of the Arab Socialist Baath Party, the Syrian (social) Nationalist Party in Lebanon, the Murabitun leadership council of Lebanon, the Beirut municipal political council of Lebanon, the communist labour organization of Lebanon and the Lebanese federation of workers trade unions published a joint statement.

Africa

Madagascar

July 10: The Malagasy paper "Imongo Vaovao" published an article titled "Reunification of Korea is Unanimous Desire of the Korean and World Peoples". The paper said that broad public circles of the world express full support to the Korean people's cause of independent and peaceful reunification, denounce the "two Koreas" plot of the United States and the south Korean military fascist dictatorship and strongly demand the immediate withdrawal of the U.S. imperailists from south Korea.

July 11: The Malagasy youth and students solidarity committee for the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea published a statement.

July 11: A meeting of solidarity with the Korean people was held in Antananarivo under the sponsorship of the Malagasy youth and students solidarity committee for the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea. The meeting was addressed by Rakotomandimvi Benzamin, Secretary General of the Malagasy youth and students solidarity committee for the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea.

July 14: The 1947 Veterans Association of Madagascar published a statement.

July 14: The Malagasy paper "Atrika" published a commentary headlined "The South Korean Military Fascist Rule is Fated to be Destroyed".

Zambia

Recently: Opening ceremonies of the month of anti-U.S. joint struggle were held in Burundi, Somalia and the U.N. Namibian University in Zambia.

Egypt

July 8: The mission of the South West Africa People's Organization in Egypt and the Middle East published a statement.

Mozambique

June 27: A ceremony for opening the month of anti-U.S. joint struggle was held in Maputo under the auspices of the Frelimo party and the Mozambican government.

Ghana

June 23: The chairman of the foreign affairs committee, the chairman of the public works and housing committee and the Chairman of the land, power and resources committee of the Ghanaian Parliament and 17 other parliamentarians from the People's National Party of Ghana published a joint statement.

Latin America

Panama

Recently: The Panamanian committee for supporting Korea's reunification made public a statement.

Colombia

The antioqia departmental committee, Colombia, for the study of the Juche idea issued a statement.

Cuba

June 26: The Cuban movement for peace and sovereignty among the people made public a statement.

Venezuela

The Venezuelan committee for the reunification of Korea published a statement.

Nicaragua

June 25: The Nicaraguan committee for solidarity among peoples sent a solidarity message supporting the reunification of Korea to international democratic organizations.

July 1: Fourteen public organizations of Nicaragua including the Sandinist centre of workers of Nicaragua and the Nicaraguan committee for solidarity among peoples published a joint statement.

Europe

Soviet

June 25: The Soviet paper "Krasnaya Zvezda" in a commentary captioned "the just cause" notes that the reinforced concrete wall running across the Korean Peninsula built by the Seoul puppets and their American patrons is aimed at perpetuating the division of Korea according to their plan. But no wall can keep the country with one history and culture divided into "two Koreans", stresses the paper.

June 25: The Soviet paper "Pravda" carried a commentary titled "Resolute Demand" in connection with the beginning of the

Citizens in New York held a meeting, protesting the U.S. Government against supporting the Chon Du Hwan regime. (June, 1980)

June 25-July 27 month of anti-U.S. joint struggle.

June 25: A meeting was held at a cutting tool factory in Moscow under the co-sponsorship of the Moscow committee of the communist party of the Soviet Union, the presidium of the union of Soviet societies of friendship and cultural relations with foreign countries and the central committee of the Soviet-Korean friendship society.

June 27: The Soviet Paper "Selskaya Zhizn" came out with an article captioned "End Arbitrariness."

June 30: A meeting of solidarity with the Korean people was held in Irkutsk, the Soviet Union.

July 7: The Soviet paper "Sotsialistitcheskaya Industriya" in its article says that the Soviet people express solidarity with the Korean people in their struggle for the peaceful reunification of country and the belief that this cause of justice will end in victory.

West Germany

June 25: The West German solidarity delegation for supporting Korea's reunification headed by Rolf Stolz, member of the executive committe of the Central Committee of the Party of Green of West Germany staying in the DPRK, published a statement.

June 25: Reinhard Muller, representative of the communist organization of West Germany "Z" who is member of the West German solidarity delegation for supporting Korea's reunification, on a visit to the DPRK, made public a statement.

Czechoslovakia

June 25: The Czechoslovak paper "Rude Pravo" in an article says that the talks for reunification in Korea were brought to a rupture by the "two Koreas" plot of the U.S. imperialists and the south Korean authorities and their anti-popular policy. But the Korean people are struggling to reunify their country by peaceful means without outside interference, realize democracy in south Korea, crush the bloody terrorism of the Chon Du Hwan military fascist dictatorship and remove the danger of a new war.

July 3: The Czechoslovak paper "Mlada Fronta" carried an article headlined "Big Wall in Korea" exposing the splittist manoeuvres of the south Korean puppet clique.

Norway

Norwegian public circles issued statements. In its statement the Oslo branch of the Norwegian trade union committee for supporting Korea's reunification said that the U.S. imperialists ignited a war of aggression in Korea.

Recently: A joint meeting of Norwegian political parties and public organizations for solidarity with the Korean people was held in Oslo.

Finland

Recently: The Turku branch of the Finland-Korea association organized a Turku solidarity meeting supporting the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea and adopted at the meeting letters of protest to U.S. president Reagan and the Chon Du Hwan clique of Traitors.

Sweden

Recently: The Stockholm municipal committee of the left party-communists of Sweden and the Stockholm municipal committee of the young communist league of Sweden held a joint meeting and made public a statement.

Austria

July 10: The Communist Party of Austria, the Democratic Women's Union of Austria, the Communist Youth Union of Austria, the communist students union of Austria and the Austrian federation of leftist trade unions published a joint statement.

France

Recently: The French general confederation of labour made public a statement.

Swiss

June 26: A meeting for solidarity with the Korean people struggling for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country was held in Geneva under the auspices of the Swiss committee of African, Middle East and Latin American students studying in Geneva for supporting Korea's reunification.

Bulgaira

June 27: The Bulgarian paper "Zemedelsko Zname" carried an article headlined "Solidarity and Support".

June 29: A mass meeting for solidarity with the Korean people was held in Sofia.

June 30: The Bulgarian paper "Vecherni Novini" carried an article headlined "Month of Solidarity with Korean People. For Peaceful Reunification".

July 2: The Bulgarian paper "Kooperativno Selo" carried an article headlined "Just Cause will be Crowned with Victory".

July 12: The Bulgarian paper "Narodna Mladezh" carried an article headlined "Solidarity with the Struggle of the Korean People for the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of the Country"

Pyongyang's Disneyland: Taesongsan Amusement Center Full of Fun

There are a number of amusement centers in every province of the DPRK. Of them, Pyongyang's Taesongsan Amusement Center is most thrilling and on the largest scale.

Located in the suburbs of the capital, the Taesongsan Amusement Center is a Korean version of Disneyland. It has lots of most sophisticated amusement machines, including roller coasters, long-distance or short-distance (known as Mad Mouse).

At every weekend, in particular during holidays and even weekdays, large crowds of holiday-makers, mostly working-class people, flood the Taesongsan Amusement Center.

This amusement center is near the Central Zoological Park. Both are reached by bus or subway from downtown Pyongyang. Ice creams, soft drinks, noodles and other snacks are sold at stands set up in dozens of places in the center.

Note: South Korea has no roller coaster.

Holiday-makers visiting the Taesongsan Amusement Center

Flying saucers are a great attraction.

Soft drinks stand

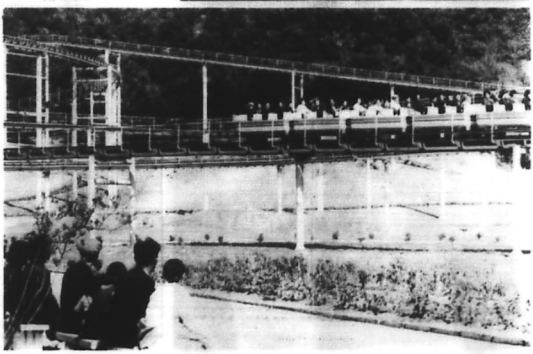
Rotary viewing cars

Boat-sliding water chute

Electric cars

Merry-go-round

Jet coaster



People in Paleolithic Period, Roots of Korean Race

Introduced here is a lecture on "People in Paleolithic Period and Roots of the Korean Race" made by Kim Guk Hyon, researcher of Historical Research Institute of Social Science Academy of the DPRK at lectures to the Japanese scholars and historians.

Kim Guk Hyon visited Japan as a member of the DPRK Science and Cultural delegation from mid May to mid June at the invitation of the Solidarity Committee of Japan-DPRK Social Scientists and Kansai-DPRK Science Exchange Committee.

Follows a gist of the first part of lecture

After the liberation, surveys and investigations of the remains of the Eolithic era were actively conducted and encouraging results were obtained. As a result, it came to be believed that the Korean Peninsula was inhabited from the beginning of the paleolithic period.

The Korean Peninsula was inhabited by men from the dawn of mankind, and the people inhabiting the peninsula developed a paleolithic culture.

This is proved by the following remains and human bones excavated in the DPRK. Remains excavated include the Kommunmol remains, Sangwon County (Pyongyang); the Taehyon-dong remains, Ryokpo District, Pyongyang, remains discovered in grottoes, on Mt. Sungri, Tokchon County, South Pyongan Province; the Mandal-ri remains, Sungho District, Pyongyang.

Excavation of Kommunmol Remains

The Kommunmol remains, Sangwon County, Pyongyang, were discovered in 1966. Belonging to a period 400–600 millenniums ago, these remains proved that the Korean Peninsula was inhabited from the dawn of mankind.

The most primitive stone tools and some 29 kinds of fossils of animals were found there.

Among the fossils of vertebrates, 18 kinds, or nearly 80% of the 29 kinds of fossils of animals, were of extinct species.

Among the big vertebrates were many perissodactyla and artiodactyla. Great two-horned rhinoceroses, belonging to perissodactyla, accounted for more than 50% of the big vertebrates in the number of fossils, and 33.7% in the number of head.

Those extinct animals are typical animals which lived before the middle diluvial epoch. This can be proved through comparison with fossilized animals excavated in grottoes at Chonchon, Sangwon County, in the grottoes on Sungri mountain, Tokchon County, South Pyongan Province, and at Hwachon-dong, Sungho District, Pyongyang.

At the Kommunmol remains, many great two-horned rhinoceros, belonging to the perissodactyla, were found. However fossil remains of artiodactyla discovered at the above-mentioned grottoes were large in number and species.

It is well known that in the composition of fossils of vertebrates, artiodactyla increase as compared with perissodactyla in the middle diluvial epoch.

As for fauna, brown rats increase in the Tertiary and disappear in the Quaternary.

The fauna of the Kommunmol fossil vertebrates belongs to the Quaternary.

Among the stone implements, stone implements of indefinite forms were found at the Kommunmol remains belong to the early paleolithic period.

From the study of the fossils of animals and stone implements, it was confirmed that the Kommunmol remains belonged to the early paleolithic period. No human bones were found there.

Discovery of Ancient Instruments

Through this struggle for existence, the hominids developed to ancients, who had many primitive features, though they were more developed than hominids.

Fossilized human bones were found in other remains, following the excavation of the Kommunmol remains. In 1977, bones of an extinct great two-horned rhinoceros, a bison, a moose–28 kinds of fossilized animals and the fossilized skull of a child about 7–8 years old, called the "Ryokpo-in" (Ryokpo man) were discovered in a limestone grotto at Taehyon-dong, Ryokpo District, Pyongyang.

The excavated skull was divided into the frontal bone, the parietal bone and the temporal bone, indicated its primitive characteristics. The frontal bone of the Ryokpo men has a gentle gradient as compared with that of a modern child of the same age.

The gradient of the parietal bone is gentle, which indirectly indicates its evolution of the brain.

Through an analysis of the primitive features of the Ryokpo men, a stratum where their fossilized bone were excavated and fossilized fauna, the Ryokpo people were confirmed as early ancients.

In 1937 in a grotto on Mt. Sungri, Tokchon County, South Pyongan Province, 29 kinds of fossilized animals and fossilized human teeth were excavated. The exhumed tooth were found to be those of ancients as a result of an anthropological research. These people were called "Tokchon people."

Among the fossilized vertebrates, those which were extinct, are fewer than among those discovered at the Kommunmol remains and most of the fossilized vertebrates are found in Korea's fauna.

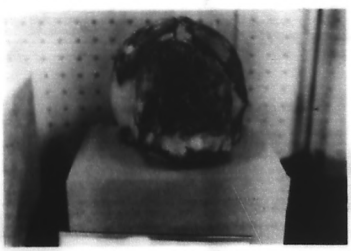
The bones of many animals belong to a family of deer, because the fauna of those days was quite different from that of the paleolithic period, indicating that it is close to the fauna of a Recent epoch.

The remains found in the grotto on Mt. Sungri are considered to belong to a period from the middle diluvial epoch to the early upper diluvial epoch, that is 100,000 years ago, the basis of materials of ancient animals and through a comparison with the remains found near the remains of Mt. Sungri. The Tokchon people belongs to a period later than the Ryokpo people.

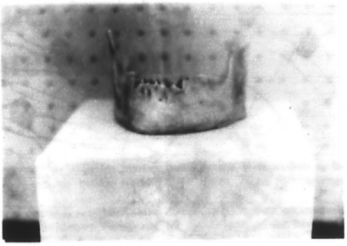
The Ryokpo people and the Tokchon people lived in the middle period of the paleolithic age of Korea following the ape-men who left the Kommunmol remains. The capacity of the brain of the ancient is larger than that of the hominid and their physical constitution was developed and their capacity to overcome nature was increased. The ancients had mere developed labor instruments than those of the former period.

The cultural stratum of the middle period of the paleolithic period was discovered in 1963 at Kulpo-ri, Unggi County, North Hamgyong Province. The ruins of an open-air fire place was found in 1977 at Hwachon-dong, Sungho District, Pyongyang. They show in detail the life of the ancients.

In the first stratum of the Kulpo-ri remains, the ruins of a dugout were discovered, where a stone foundation used for making stone instruments, choppers, pieces of stone instruments, etc. were discovered. In particular, a piece of stone with a pointed blade indicates a remarkable development of stone instruments manufacturing technique.



The skull of the Mandal Man



The lower jaw of the Mandal man

Development into Neanthropic Men

In the latter period of the paleolithic age, the ancients developed into neanthropic men, belonging to modern man.

In 1972, or one year before the molar of the Tokchon people was discovered in the grotto on Mt. Sungri, a fossilized lower jaw of a man was found in the layer just above the layer where the molar was found.

The fossil lower jaw had been kept in good condition. It was confirmed that this was the jaw of a male about 35 years old. This human is called the "Sungri-san-in" (Sungri-san man).

The fossil lower jaw of the Sungri-san man is characterized by its protrusion. No protrusion is seen only in the neanthropic man. The protrusion of the jaw means a functional characteristic of the jaw, and the ability to produce articulate sound is reflected in the lower jaw. This means human kind used articulate language for the first time.

Considering various anthropological characteristics and the stratum where the fossil was found, it was confirmed that the bone of the lower jaw of the Sungri-san man was that of the neanthropic man.

On the other hand, the Sungri-san man has some characteristics similar to those of the ancients. For instance, the protrusion of the jaw is quite different from that of modern man and less developed than that of other neanthropic men. The width, thickness and height of the lower jaw are considerably large and the position of the jaw is lower. This means that the Sungri-san man was the neanthropic people of an early period. It is the second Kulpo cultural stratum, a typical one in the latter period of the paleolithic era that shows the life of the neanthropic man such as the Sungri-san man.

The second stratum next to the first stratum where the remains of the middle period were discovered, belongs to a period of about 40,000–30,000 years ago. The stone instruments discovered there included choppers, cutting instruments, scratching instruments made by a new method. The rapid development of labor instruments showed a radical change in the physical creatures of men and in the social organization.

Of late, the fossil bones of the neanthropic man of an era toward the end of the paleolithic period were discovered among the remains in a grotto in Mandal-ri, Sungho District, Pyongyang, where stone instruments and fossils of animals were also discovered.

One skull (in a complete form) and two bones of the lower jaw were exhumed in the middle stratum of the grotto belonging to the latter era of the paleolithic period. This fossil man is called "Mandal-in" (Mandal man).

The skeletal remains of the Mandal man are considered to be those of a man 25–30 years old, who had characteristics of an early neanthropic man with some characteristics of modern man.

The skull is typically dolichocephalic–showing hardly any change to a brachycephalic tendency.

One of the primitive characteristics is the development of an arrow-like bumb in the frontal bone, which is seen in the hominid and some neanthropic men.

The temporal bone is wide and low and the glenoid cavity is relatively wide and low. The connection of the bones is generally simple and in particular, the suture of the occipital bone is simple.

The Mandal man has developed features along with primitive characteristics. The forehead is high and relatively straight. The skull is generally round and high.

The Mandal man belongs to the neanthropic man with some characteristics of modern man, but his primitive features are not completely lost.

The extent of the development of the physical constitution of the Mandal man and his capacity of activity as neanthropic man can be assumed from the labor instruments they left.

The stone and bone instruments exhumed at the Mandal-ri remains are refined and their uses are clearer than those of the implements of the former period. They are made to be used easily.

The Mandal-ri remains belong to the latter period of the paleolithic period. The manufacturing method of stone instruments indicate that the Mandal-ri remains belong to the latter period of the paleolithic period. The fossil animals discovered are very few, another indication that the remains belong to the latter period of the paleolithic period.

The relics and the Mandal man found at the Mandal remains together with the Sungri-san man are of great significance in that they serve to clarify the roots of the Korean people, and they are also important for the study of paleolithic culture.

The Korean Peninsula was inhabited by men throughout the stages of the hominids, ancients and neanthropic men.

"Lamentations of Winds – Life and History of Korean Female Workers in Japan" (4)

1. Days Spent in Factories And Dormitories

Recruiting Korean Females

Across the Sea of Genkai

(Continued from the previous issue)

"My father was a poor tenant farmer."

"When Japanese recruiter came, I thought if I lost the chance then, it would or never came again.

A recruiter for a factory in Matsumoto (Nagano Prefecture) was arbitrary. In the spring of 1925, the snow remained yet to melt. It was early spring. In Korea foods became short. I was excited at suggestion that 3 yen would be paid a day in silk reeling factory of Japan. This meant if we worked in a year we would be rich. Everyday simply believed the talk.

It was true that there were female workers who were able to earn 3 yen a day. But, they were very few, one among thousands of workers. I came to know that our daily pay was 30 sen, when I began to work at a silk reeling factory.

I knew nothing then and went to Japan unaware of what was waiting me there. When I was told that all the travel expenses were paid by the employer, I simply thought it was nice. Later I realized my absurd misconception. After I came to Japan, I knew that men who recruited females received 30 yen per female as recruitment expenses. In addition, they received our yearly wage of 50 yen and filled their own pockets.

A contract obligated me to work for two years virtually without any pay.

There were many imposters among those who recruited female workers. A large number of Korean women were victims (*Ku Haeng Ja*).

Hosoi Wakizo wrote on their viciousness in his book "Tragic Story of Factory Girls":

"Those recruiters of female workers are virtually panders and gangsters . . . . Most of them told a pack of lies and deceived innocent villagers."

"A man, a former principal of an elementary school, came to recruit female workers for a spinning mill at Ashikaga, Tochigi Prefecture. He spoke Korean a little bit and had connections in my village. Seven poor females agreed to work. They were promised a pay of tens of yen a month . . . ." (*Kim Bok Tal*)

Many of women, including me were recruited for Japanese spinning and silk reeling factories.

The Japanese textile mills attempted to recruit females in poor villagers in Korea, where the situation of female workers in Japan was gradually known. Nevertheless, the Korean females agreed to come to Japan as they were eager to find out their missing families, husbands, brothers and sisters.

"I wanted a job at a silk reeling factory, as it was in Nagano Prefecture. Around 1928 I heard that we had to be cautious not to be deceived by recruiters for Japanese spinning and silk reeling factories. We knew the lot of those who sold themselves into bondage. We were on our guard. As we led a hard life, my husband went to Japan for a job. I heard my husband was working at a construction site in Nagano Prefecture, so I wanted to meet him. Though I knew that my husband was in that prefecture, I couldn't afford to travel. I was agonized. Then I heard a factory would pay travelling expenses and food expenses. While working at a company in Nagano Prefecture, I thought of finding out my husband . . . . . I didn't care about my wages and what the labor conditions in the company . . . ." (*Pak Sun*)

There were relatively many female workers who came to Japan to look for their husbands. In Korea, it was natural for wives to unconditionally follow their husbands.

"My husband sent letter one year after he went to Japan. In the letter he wrote: He was working at a construction site and he was unable to send much money as his wage was small. He would return without fail after making a fortune. But after that I heard nothing from him and no money sent from him.

"It was just then when an agent for a silk reeling factory of Nagano Prefecture came to my village to recruit factory females. I instantly made an application. I thought there was no alternative to look for my husband. . . . . Actually, after I came to Japan, I didn't understand Japanese and I was a stranger here. In addition, the company didn't allow us to go out frequently. It was very hard for us to look for our husband . . . . We got 15 sen a day, it was all I could do to support myself." (*Choe Chong Jo, born at Chongdo County, South Kyongsang Province, resident of Okaya City, Nagano Prefecture*)

Fresh Traffic Contract

No company or factory could freely recruit in Korea females to work for spinning and silk reeling factories. In the middle Taisho Era (1912–1926) the government-general of Korea followed the policy of controlling the recruitment of laborers. There were "Regulations for recruitment of Korean laborers". Based on these regulations it was necessary for any company or factory wishing to recruit workers in Korea to file an application for permission with the government-general.

The regulations consisted of 14 articles and additional rules, and came into force on the last of February, 1918. A document remains, which the Okaya Silk Reeling Association submitted in May 1918 to the government-general of Korea inquiring the Peace and Order Section of its Labor Affairs Bureau about the regulation of labor recruitment. Before the enforcement of these regulations, laborers appear to have been freely into the hand recruited by factories and companies in Korea. The regulations were intended to control fraudulent methods employed by capitalists in the recruitment of laborers and slave trade-like labor contracts. But they were not intended to check the inflow of cheap Korean labor into Japan.

After 1918, spinning and silk reeling companies began to recruit large numbers of Korean laborers according to these regulations.

"Precautions" remains today, which were given by the government-general of Korea to the Okaya Silk Reeling Association, when it submitted an application for permission of recruitment of laborers in Korea to the general director of the police affairs bureau of the government-general of Korea and to the chief directors of the police affairs bureau of the provinces and counties concerned in July 1918.

The application reads as follows:

1. recruiting district
– to submit an application to the chief director of the police affairs department of each recruiting district, if laborers are to be recruited in one district
– to submit an application to general director of the police affairs bureau, in case laborers are recruited in two districts

1. application
– to prepare three copies of the application and submit them to the above-mentioned person

1. period of recruitment
– one or two years

1. age of laborers
– those under the age of 14 years should not be recruited.

Based on this "precautions to be taken in submitting an application," each silk reeling factory made an application for permission of labor recruitment in Korea.

After submitting an application to the government-general recruiters sent by a factory visited various Korean villages and recruited female workers and a labor contract was made. According to the contract, a Korean female worker was completely bound to the employer – factory for two years. If she canceled a contract, she was obligated to pay costs spent for her travel to Japan and indemnities on default. If she fell ill, she had to pay medical expenses herself.

The contract was like one of human traffic. It is doubtful that Korean female workers really understood the content of the contract.

"I put my seal to something like a contract. A man who could read Japanese in my village told me to put my seal because the document was necessary for my employment by a Japanese factory. Then I put my seal. As I couldn't read, I didn't understand what was written there . . . . (*Li Sun Ok*).

Most women did not understand Japanese, so that there were hardly any Korean women who came to Japan with a full knowledge of the content of their contracts.

The women had to accepted recruiters words though with certain misgivings and came to Japan, encouraged only by the fact that they found jobs in Japan. Most female workers said that they didn't remember the contract. The recruiter prepared a contract directly with females themselves However, that was only a kind of formality. Therefore, this did not mean that those who made contracts with the recruiters, understood the content of the contracts.

The Korean women who came to Okaya, had never thought that they were obliged to work in the factories for more than two years. After beginning their work at factories, they came to know that they were bound by their contracts. In order to flee from hard work, some of them ran away.

"Fleeing from there" was their resistance. **(To be continued)**

(Continued from page 2)

of the same race." In this statement he said:

"Even though we have different ideas, including communist ideas, yet under thin veneers, we are all Koreans pulsating with the same blood, speaking the same language, having the same forefathers and sharing the same morals. We are not different peoples. So, we have to find the way our country must take in the present most critical situation, by sitting together and discussing with each other to crush the plots of foreign forces and get rid of their insults. . . . . I never yield to any insult or intrigue, but go to the north just to find the way for the reintegration and liberation of our country and to make a final dicision with the people of the same race. No matter whether I will succeed or not, I will resolutely go to the north where the people of the same race are waiting for me, to achieve national unity and to restore our national spirit."

Finally, on April 19, 1948, he left Seoul for Pyongyang with a certain doubt about the north Korean President's statement on his past. Chief of the Metropolitan Police Chang Taek Sang who went as far as the 38th Parallel with him, ostensibly as a "guard", tried to persuad him to suspend his trip, by repeatedly saying, "Please try and think it over again. It is better for you not to go to the north." His answer to that was "No." He said he had to go to the north for the reunification of the country.

It was in a narrow valley in the central part of the Parallel Line that Mr. Kim Gu in gray Tulmagi (Korean overcoat) crossed the line into the north.

When he crossed the 38th Parallel Line, he had to go through an unexpected experience. **(To be continued)**

Korean Paintings "Dance" By Pak Tae Yon

NEWS DISPATCH FROM PYONGYANG

* A Chinese friendship visiting group headed by Guo Zhaoji, Deputy Chief of the General Office of Foreign Affairs of Sichuan Province of the People's Republic of China, arrived in Pyongyang by train.

* A delegation of the Chugoku, Shikoku and Kyushu Solidarity Committee of Japan headed by Takatsuka Osamu, General Secretary of the Tokushima Prefectural Council of Trade Unions, Japan, and General Secretary of the Tokushima Prefectural People's Council Supporting the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea, arrived in Pyongyang by air.

* Talks between the party and government delegation of the DPRK and party and government delegation of Zimbabwe were held in Salisbury, Zimbabwe.

June 17

* **A delegation of the Korean National Peace Committee headed by O Guk Il left Pyongyang by plane to attend the International Conference for Solidarity with Syria and the Palestine Liberation Organization against plots of imperialism and its allies scheduled in Syria.**

June 18

* Mathieu Kerekou, President of Benin, met DPRK ambassador to his country Son Chang Su.

Pointing out that the Benin people sincerely wish big success to the Korean people in carrying out the cause of national reunification in accordance with the national reunification policy put forward by President Kim Il Sung, the Benin President expressed satisfaction with the excellent development of friendly and cooperative relations between Benin and Korea.

June 19

* S.S. Pradhan Pagal, editor of the Nepalese weekly "Naya Yug", arrived in Pyongyang by plane.

* A youth delegation of the General Council of Trade Unions of Japan (Sohyo) headed by director of its youth department Okubo Kmio arrived in Pyongyang by plane.

June 20

* A forestry delegation of the DPRK headed by Kim Yong Hwa left Pyongyang by plane for a visit to the Soviet Union. **(KCNA)**

Details of May 18 Memorial Service at Kwangju

'Yankees Must Go Home! Oh Yes, Oh Yes!'

'Chon Du Hwan Must Resign! Oh Yes, Oh Yes!'

At a memorial service held on May 18 at the Kwangju cemetery for victims of the May 1980 Kwangju Incident, those present chanted, "Chun Doo-Hwan must resign! Oh yes, oh yes! The Yankees must go home! Oh yes, oh yes!"

This account was reprinted from Korea Communique, July 4, 1981, No. 40, published by the Japan Emergency Christian Conference on the Korean Problems.

An open letter (see box) of the families of Kwangju incident detainees, dated May 21, 1981, to Ambassador Gleysteen, is also from the same issue of the Christian publication.

Kwangju demonstrators, dead and wounded, lie on the street.

A memorial service for people of Kwangju City who died in the "Kwangju Incident" of May at last year was held on May 18, 1981, the first anniversary of the incident, in the Kwangju City cemetery outside the city limits. It is in this cemetery where many of those who died during the incident are buried. One entire plot of land is filled with the victims. Wandering through this plot one can see that most of the victims were in their late teens or early twenties, but also included many children under 10 years of age. All of the individuals in that particular plot died between May 18 and May 29 of last year.

Approximately 200 students and a handful of surviving family members came to the cemetery early in the morning for the memorial service. A camera man from the American NBC television network arrived along with a camera crew ostensibly from the Korean MBC network, but perhaps actually from the KCIA. (Although the Korean camera team filmed the proceedings and participants extensively, no mention of the affair was made on the evening news and no footage of the event was shown.)

The minister who was supposed to preside over the memorial service did not appear. Many assumed that he was prevented from attending by the police. His place was taken by a man in his thirties who gave an impassioned eulogy to his seven-year-old nephew who was killed by government troops during the incident. In closing, he called on the United States to take responsibility for its role in the incident.

After the eulogy, incense was burned, and there was a moment of silence. Afterwords, while mothers and grandmothers of the dead wailed over the graves, the students placed carnations on each of the graves and then sang a series of songs. One of these songs was sung during the incident but was sung with four extra verses. These went as follows:

Chun Doo-hwan must resign! Oh yes, oh yes! The Yankee must go home! Oh yes, oh yes! Don't forget May 18! Oh yes, oh yes! The fascist government must resign! Oh yes . . !

(Each of these verses was repeated five times.)

Despite the presence of about six Americans (including press and missionaries) there was a serious anti-American attitude among the participants. The call for America to take responsibility for the incident was met by applause by the crowd.

After the service at about 12:00 the participants left together and walked down the one-and-a-half mile dirt road toward the main highway, with the victims' families in the lead. Approximately one-quarter mile from the main road the group was met by fully armed riot police, about 150-strong, a bus-load of KCIA plainclothesmen, and a tear gas truck. The police were fully outfitted in bullet-proof vests and pants and iron helmets with mesh visors, and carried black shields. The students were totally unarmed and did nothing more violent than sing songs.

The police blocked the road for a while, apparently conferring with the leaders, and then led the crowd to the main road where they again blocked the way. The students responded to the police with cries of "Let us go home!" and "It's time for lunch and we're hungry, so let us leave!" but they were stopped from going. After about an hour the police urged the students to get into buses from Chonnam University and Chosun University which the police brought with them. However, no one got in because they were afraid that they might all be taken to the police station and arrested. Finally at about 1:40 pm the police allowed the students to board three city buses which were passing by. The police, however, spoke to the drivers and followed each bus in police cars.

Without stopping at stops along the way, the buses took the participants downtown and let them off near the provincial capitol. One student gave a short speech on the sidewalk. As soon as they started to move toward the capitol they were stopped by a handful of plainclothes KCIA agents. When they tried to arrest one student, the crowd let out a roar and surged into the street, surrounding the student and the agents. The student escapted down the street. The students started moving again and were joined by another group of students numbering about 50 who crossed the street, led by an old grandmother with a cane who had been at the cemetery weeping over one of the graves.

Exhorted by this old woman, the students cheered and joined with the other group, turned to the right away from the capitol. At that instant about 60 plainclothes agents appeared from nowhere and attacked the students, sometimes ganging up three and four to one, and hit the students and wrestled them to the ground. The students were also attacked by combat police with night sticks at their sides. I saw one student sprint across the street and dive under the iron gate of an office building which was being lowered to close off the building. About five combat police followed him under the door and arrested him.

Up until this time the demonstration had been totally peaceful with no provocation at all from the students. The KCIA agents and combat police simply attacked the students. I saw one student in front of me being wrestled to the ground by three police, one of whom had grabbed the student by the throat.

The students were forced into police buses. In a matter of minutes about 600 people gathered on the sidewalks to watch. The old woman continued to exhort the crowd, but police made no move against her. Another woman ran to and fro through the crowd sobbing "Give me my son back!" Women students, who were not arrested, sobbed hysterically. After arresting the mass of students, the plainclothesmen fanned out down the street in two columns of about 25 each, and then melted into the crowd.

Apparently the people of Kwangju have become accustomed to demonstrations, because the instant the KCIA agents attacked the students, shopkeepers along the street began closing the iron doors of their shops.

A little later, walking down toward the provincial capitol, I saw several busloads of police waiting along with tear gas trucks. In addition, police buses were stationed on alert in other areas of the city. An American soldier at Kwangju Air Base told me that the South Korean government had prepared for the anniversary of the Kwangju incident by bringing in 3,000 troops. Otherwise, the city seemed normal.

Suffering Continues

The tragedy of Kwangju, on the other hand, is not just a collection of painful recollections. The present regime consolidated its stolen power in part on the basis of the blood which it shed there – having instigated the uprising by its brutality, and then having utilized the uprising to simultaneouly frame innocent persons and argue the necessity for draconian measures to preserve stability. The regime has uttered not one word of apology for its central, instigatory role in the tragedy. In sticking to its claims of "outside agitation", it has perpetuated the suffering and has invited the people's bitterness. Finally, it has continued to employ force against those who would memorialize those who died last year. Also reprinted herein is an account of a graveside service on May 18, and the police forces mobilized to intimidate those who attended. As with the student demonstrations in Kwangju prior to the May 17, 1980 extension of martial law – documented herein with pictures newly available from that city – the recent gatherings had been entirely peaceful until the police employed force. The lessons have clearly not been learned.

Mention should be made of the PRAYER FAST carried out by over 30 Catholic priests from May 18 to 22. A public memorial mass was held in Kwangju's Namdong Cathedral on the evening of May 18, attended by several hundred. Following the mass, priests from Kwangju and elsewhere in the country announced the beginning of an indefinite prayer fast requesting the immediate release of ALL those still under detention in connection with the events of last year. The government is reported to have promised favorable consideration of the requests. At roughly the same time, family members of those in prison attempted a sit-in at the American Cultural Center in Kwangju – hoping to involve the U.S. government as an intermediary in pressing for the prisoners' releases. Late on May 21 they were removed from the Center by police called by the Embassy. **(Korea Communique)**

AN OPEN LETTER TO AMBASSADOR GLEYSTEEN:

Having heard the unexpected news that you are visiting Yosu [a city south-east of Kwangju], we family members of detainees in Kwangju are beset with troubled feelings.

We have exerted considerable effort to meet directly with you in the months since the events here in Kwangju last year. Only recently, for instance, a number of family members among us visited the United States' Embassy in Seoul to explain in some detail our recommendation that all the Kwangju detainees be freed, and to request that a letter be sent on our behalf to U.S. President Reagan. We had full confidence that Your Excellency would exert fullest efforts to make our position known, and we awaited some form of reply. However, we were angered when the first anniversary of events in Kwangju, May 18, came and passed with no sign of response.

We would request that you be fully aware of the fact that General Wickham [commander, R.O.K.-U.S. Combined Forces Command] and yourself are the focus of our strong displeasure, and will remain in our hearts as an indelible bad memory.

The reason for our sense of enmity is clear: despite world opinion quite understanding of the events here in Kwangju, and despite more accurate, detailed reportage of the Korean situation in even the American press, we assume that it is reports which you have filed from your Embassy "on the scene" here in Korea which have enabled the United States to pursue policies which have consistently disappointed us. We feel strongly enough on this to suggest that General Wickham should resign his current post.

[Our points and requests:]

1. The release of all those still detained in connection with events in Kwangju is a matter we consider intimately related to your very honor as Ambassador to our country.
2. It is not too late for you to accurately convey the truth of what actually took place last year in Kwangju, and as a representative of the United States, to sincerely apologize before the detainees and their families.
3. As Ambassador [throughout the period of events in Kwangju, to the present], we hold you guilty of standing aside as a spectator, ignoring the truthful development of history.
4. For having valued your own authority and position more than your human conscience, we perceive you, Mr. Ambassador, to be a coward.

dated 21 May 1981

The families of Kwangju Incident detainees

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